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Rev A. H. Phelps,
Boston Mass

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Advocate. I thank you for your advice in your letter, you have no doubt indicated truly the policy of friends & foes, and the true course for us to pursue. I think we shall now move forward efficiently in Maine, while at the same time we shall firmly resist the new measures, that the Johnson party, and other parties are urging upon us. By the way I dislike exceedingly the course of Johnson in the Liberator, if we must hear the slang which he is throwing out, I greatly prefer to hear it from Garrison himself, than from any of his echo's or imitators. I do wonder that orthodox men can bear as they do, with the innuendo's insinuations and sarcasms, which are weekly poured out in the Liberator against orthodoxy and orthodox men. You have a difficult task to perform in Massachusetts, and I hope you will have that wisdom which is profitable to direct. I should be glad to hear from you occasionally, and if I can help you in any way, tell me how and it shall be done. The importance of our paper is becoming more and more apparent to us. We mean it shall be decided but christian in its character.

My respects to Mrs P. Yours truly Wm Smyth

P.S. I hope that if this woman question is forced upon you in the Mass. Society, that you will in some form secede. I think separation infinitely preferable to having these things thrust upon us against our remonstrances, and against our consciences.

with the men, who are pushing these things upon us to the injury of the cause. And it is too bad that in Massachusetts they should have to such an extent the control of things. I do hope that the members of our orthodox societies will be emancipated from their rule before long. You want very much a purely A. S. paper, that shall be under "evangelical influence", And I do not see how you will make much headway against these isms, without it. With the Liberator to promulgate their doctrines and to insinuate them into the minds of abolitionists and to connect them with the abolition movement as a part of genuine orthodoxy, these men wield a tremendous power. Can nothing be done to start a purely A. S. paper of the right stamp? I hope you will keep your eye upon this object, and do have the thing done with the "least practicable delay".

Johnson I presume did not send the memorial of "Miss Kelly and her associates" to our General Conference, as it did not appear there. The subject had in some respects the go-by, but in such a manner as very materially to help the cause. A committee was appointed to report at the next meeting, which will of course bring it up then. The Conference is to meet in this place, and I trust that something efficient will be done. The county Conferences will I have no doubt for the most part do well. The resolution of the Penobscot Conference you will see in the last

Wm Smyth.

Brunswick July 25th 1838

65

PHELPS MSS.

Dear Bro Phelps,

I have been trying for some time since the receipt of your's of the 12th ult, to drop you a line, but have been prevented until now. The Advocate and my other A. S. labors press pretty hard upon me. I am determined however, so far as I at least am concerned, that things shall go ahead in Me this year. Our prospects are on the whole very flattering. We shall present a strong front, depend upon it, by the close of the year. Bro Codding is lecturing with good success, and we anticipate much from his labors. He sympathises more with the Boston radicals than I could wish, but he is a safe man, and will go about right. I regret that I was not present at the discussion of the woman question in the N. E. Convention. If practicable I wish my name could be appended to your appeal. I have intended to drop a line to the Liberator on the subject, but have neglected it thus far, and besides I feel a strong repugnance against appearing in that paper in any form through my own agency. My article in the Advocate, will not I suppose be known as from me, so as entirely to relieve me from responsibility. If in publishing the proceedings of the Convention my name can be brought in with others against its doings on that point, I wish it may be done. I cannot but feel vexed

Ms. B. 21. 8 p 68